

12 May 2004

MEMORANDUM

TO: Laboratories

FROM: Gail French, Regulatory Division

RE: Electronic Submission of Data for RIM

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Please note that in response to lab comments, we are working to improve the format of the Electronic Data Deliverable (EDD) for submission of sediment chemistry data to the New England District (NAE) of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The EDD is referenced in the Regional Implementation Manual for the Evaluation of Dredged Material Proposed for Disposal in New England Waters (RIM; EPA/USACE, 2004); the format is provided on the RIM page of the NAE website at <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/reg/rim.htm>.

Previously, submission of electronic sediment chemistry data in the EDD format was required beginning May 6, 2004. However, because we are revising this format, you may continue to submit sediment chemistry data in hardcopy format only, until further notice. If you have already prepared an EDD for unsubmitted data, we request that you submit this EDD with the hardcopy data, as it may help us develop a better format. Please continue to submit both electronic and hardcopy data for the water column and benthic effects evaluations, as described on the RIM web page.

We anticipate development of a draft format in the coming weeks. We will then circulate it amongst the labs for comments. We hope to finalize the format by the end of June. We will then allow a grace period for submission using this new format, as described in subsequent correspondence.

We apologize for any inconvenience. We hope that this new format will be easier to use and will make your job easier in the long run. Please contact Gail French at (978) 318-8077, (800) 343-4789 or (800) 362-4367, if calling from within Massachusetts, if you have any questions or concerns.